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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
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Agenda item 3

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

Attainment of strategic objectives and action to be taken in critical areas: women and the media

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, adopted in 1993, 1/

Referring to the Toronto Platform for Action 2/ concerning the access of women journalists to expression and decision-making,

1. Reaffirms the provisions of the Platform for Action 3/ adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, in particular paragraphs 131 and 135 concerning religious intolerance, extremist violence and terrorism suffered by women because of their place in society and their sex;

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are also members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ General Assembly resolution 48/104.

2/ Adopted by the International Symposium of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the topic "Women and media: Access to expression and decision-making", held at Toronto, Canada, from 28 February to 3 March 1995.

3/ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

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2. Also reaffirms paragraph 145 (f) of the Platform for Action, which states that Governments and international and regional organizations should call upon the international community to condemn and act against all forms and manifestations of terrorism, emphasizing the prevention of violence against women in general and women journalists in particular who, because of their profession, are an easy and preferred target of acts of violence and intolerance and terrorist attacks;

3. Condemns the murders and acts of violence and terrorism committed against women journalists, particularly in Algeria, because of their sex and their profession;

4. Pays a warm tribute to all the women who continue, with courage, sacrifice and determination, to make their contribution, through the media, to improving the status of women;

5. Appeals to the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the international community to join their efforts in order to intensify, in accordance with the Platform for Action, efforts to combat terrorism and all forms of intolerance and violence, which are a major obstacle to achieving the objectives of equality, development and peace proclaimed in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. 4/

4/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15 to 26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. F.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.